Postal small savings deposits

455. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a drop in the mobilization of postal small savings deposits recently due to higher rate of interest being offered by banks for deposits;

(b) if so, the details of the deposit mobilization and withdrawals during the years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 so far; and

(c) Governments reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008 (up to June, 2007)
Deposit Mobilization	173308	154418	31002
Withdrawal	105737	117656	34211

(c) The decline in collections refer to *inter-alia*, investor's choice of alternative instruments for effecting savings. However, Central and State Governments take various measures to promote and popularize Small Savings schemes through print and electronic media as well as holding seminars and providing training to various agencies involved in mobilizing collection in Small Savings Schemes etc. A website of the National Savings Institute under Government of India, Ministry of Finance has also been launched to facilitate interface with public through wider dissemination of information on small savings and on-line registration and settlement of investor's grievances. The website address is *www.nsiindia.gov.in*.

Mobile network expansions project

456. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been inordinate delay in execution of BSNL's mobile network expansion project; and

(b) if so, the details of the project with current status and the reasons for delay in its execution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The equipment procurement efforts for BSNL's new mobile network expansion project received a setback with one of the bidder approaching the Hon'ble High Court against the decision of BSNL rejecting his bid. The case has since been withdrawn in April'07 and Advance Purchase Order had already been placed on the successful bidder which is yet to be accepted by him.

Fund allocation for commonwealth games

†1457. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated by Government for preparation of Commonwealth Games to be held in 2010; and

(b) the amount allocated to develop infrastructure with regard to accommodation for foreign nationals who would be visiting India?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Government have approved project proposals of the Sports Authority of India amounting to Rs. 1000 crores (+ 10%) for the upgradation/creation of sports venue infrastructure; the upgradation of the tennis venue by the All India Tennis Association at a cost of Rs. 30 crores (+ 15%) and the expenditure budget of the Organizing Committee on a revenue neutral basis of Rs. 767 crores (± 15%) for the 'Conduct of Games'. The Expenditure Finance Committee have recommended the proposal of the Delhi Development Authority for Rs. 325.00 crores (± 25%) for the international zone etc. in the Games Village (which is being developed on the Public Private Partnership Mode) and sports infrastructure.

The Planning Commission have approved a proposal of the Government of the NCT of Delhi for an amount of Rs. 770.00 crores for the up-gradation of the civic infrastructure in the context of the Commonwealth Games. The Planning Commission have also approved an amount of Rs. 110.00 crores to the Government of Maharashtra as Special Central Assistance for sports infrastructure for the Commonwealth Youth Games, 2008 to be held in Pune, as a sub-event of the main Commonwealth Games 2010.

(b) No amount has been allocated by the Government for developing accommodation in the Games Village, which is being developed on the public-private-partnership mode for housing all Indian/foreign accredited athletes, coaches, medical/administrative staff, managers etc. Other foreign nationals, who may include technical officials/visitors would be accommodated in existing hotels or those coming up from investment by private entrepreneurs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi